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SOURCE Rumanian and Polish newspapers as indicated. (Information requested.)

TRANSPORT PROGRESS REPORTED

RUMANIAN RAILROADS SEEK FURTHER IMPROVEMENT -- Scanteia, No 1363, 1 Mar 49

Passenger and freight traffic on the Rumanian railroads has increased, and fuel consumption decreased in comparison to the same period last year. For example, freight traffic was 50.6 percent greater in January 1949 than in January 1948; the speed of passenger trains was 12.5 percent greater, and that of freight trains 12.1 percent greater than the same period in 1948; for the entire network, fuel consumption in January 1949 was 6.8 percent less than in 1948.

Certain improvements must be made if the Rumanian railroads are to fulfill or surpass their portion of the State Economic Plan for 1949. Freight cars dispatched to installations must be of the size and type requested, since a car which has a greater capacity than is necessary represents a needless waste of space. The arrival of freight cars should be planned better since they are frequently brought to the sidings in the afternoon or night which causes difficulties in loading. It is not feasible to load cars in the dark in some cases, such as the tank cars which have to be loaded with acids at the Phoenix Sulfuric Acid Plant in Baia Mare.

The lack of available cars frequently halts work at some factories where freight is loaded directly into cars. Station masters must be more attentive to shippers' requests and see that the proper cars are available on schedule. Efforts must also be made to avoid long trains of empties since this type of train does not yield revenue. Shippers must make every effort to unload the cars as quickly as possible so they may again be ready for a profitable haul.

STEAM TO REPLACE MOTORS ON SOME TRAINS -- Viata Sindicala, No 456, 5 Mar 49

The Department of Rumanian Railroads announces that motorcar trains M 5081/5084 Dolhasca-Falticeni and M 5481/5082 Pascani-Falticeni will be replaced by steam-operated trains.

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SHIPS LAUNCHED AT OLTENITA -- Viata Sindicala, No 457, 9 Mar 49

On 6 March 1949, the second fishing vessel to be built by the SARTAT Shipyard in Oltenita was launched, far ahead of schedule. The first vessel of this type was launched in February. The launching on 6 March was the second under the 1949 plan.

SHIPPING HEAVY IN SZCZECIN -- Rzeczpospolita [Polish], No 53, 23 Feb 49

With favorable weather and atmospheric conditions in the Baltic, shipping has been unusually active during January and February. In the last few days the Bure II, carrying a cargo of 350 tons of iron ore, arrived in Szczecin. This was the 500th ship to arrive in the port this year.

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